

Appl. No.: 10/564,897  
Reply to Office Action of: 07/10/2007

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney elects Group I (claims 1-10).  
Applicants' attorney elects Species 3 (Fig. 3b) with traverse.  
Claims 1-3 and 6-10 read on the elected species.

Please note that Figs. 1a-d, 2a-b, 3a-b, 6 and 7a-b are all showing a same first connector 5 (or components thereof). The examiner's attention is directed to MPEP §806.03 which states that::

"Where the claims of an application define the same essential characteristics of a single disclosed embodiment of an invention, restriction therebetween should never be required. This is because the claims are but different definitions of the same disclosed subject matter, varying in breadth or scope of definition."

In this case, different species are not shown in Figs. 1a-d, 2a-b, 3a-b, 6 and 7a-b. Only one species is shown in these figures. Figs. 4 and 5 show a different species. However, it clearly would not be over-burdensome for the examiner to examine that species with the elected species. The embodiment of Figs. 4-5 merely has the contact 23 in a through hole.

Claim 1 has been amended above to clarify the claimed invention, and has not been amended for reasons related to patentability.

Claim 3 has been amended above to correct a typographical error.

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Claims 11-13 have been cancelled as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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8/3/07

Date

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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